

Colorado Blue Ribbon Panel on Housing

June 7, 2005

Agenda Item IV, A, 1.

TOPIC: Standardized Needs Assessment and Statewide Needs Assessment

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I. SUMMARY: Creation of a standardized needs assessment with a set number of variables to be updated regularly. Standardized needs assessments should be designed to facilitate regular updating as well as easy comparison of housing data across regions and jurisdictions. A task force composed of Blue Ribbon Panel members will meet to determine specifics of variables, suggested format of needs assessments and further action necessary.

II. BACKGROUND: At the December meeting of the Blue Ribbon Panel, panelists expressed a desire to have more standardized and complete information on the state of housing in the various regions of Colorado. In January, Kathi Williams met with panelist Andrew Knudtsen to explore further options in using needs assessments in a more cost-efficient way that may also assist with better long term analysis.

III. STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Blue Ribbon Panel should create a task force of several members of the Blue Ribbon Panel to determine the best format for both a statewide needs assessment and a standardized regional and local needs assessment. Both will include core standardized variables that will promote ease in the needs assessment process while allowing for better comparison between regions.

The task force will also explore improvements in funding needs assessments, updating the information, distributing the information, and ensuring incorporation into a statewide needs assessment.